ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. I have received notices of various adjournment motions. I have received specially four adjournment motions with reference to the position in Ceylone:

one by MR. SIVARAMAN NAIR—

> "To discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance namely, the serious situation created by the anti-Indian policy of the Ceylon Government resulting in grave injustice and hardship to a large section of Travancore ans resident in Ceylon'.

another by MR. K. R. NARAYANAN:

> "To discuss the serious situation created by the anti-Indian policy pursuedby the Ceylon Government which has seriously affected the Travancoreans residing there."

another by MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI:—

> "To discuss the serious a situation especially in Travancore that has arisen out of the decision of the Board of Ministers in Ceylon to dismiss 3,000 Indian employees of Ceylon Government, and their subsequent proposal to enact a legislation whereby the employment of non-Ceylonese by private employers could be restricted by the imposition of a quota system and the levy of a special tax."

another by MR. K. MADHAVAN:—

> "To discuss the serious unrest created among the Travancoreans on account of the repatriation policy of the Ceylon Government towards Indians in Ceylon, including Travancoreans."

As is wellknown to honourable Members, under Section 17 of the Statute governing us,

> "matters governed by treaties, conventions or agreements now in force or hereafter to be made by our Government with the Paramount Power relations of our Government with the Paramount Power or withr Foreign Princes or States"

are removed from the cognisance of this Assembly. At the same time, it will not be right or expedient on the part of this Government to remain oblivious to the state of feeling evidenced by the motions, for adjournment of the House, of which notice has been given to Government. Therefore, while I feel obliged under the provisions governing our procedure to disallow these motions for adjournment, I may assure Honourable Members of this House, both in their individual and representative capacities, that the Government of Travancore are taking every possible means to bring home to the Government of India the seriousness of the situation and the necessity to grapple with it. I may add that there are some features of the situation which I am sure the Ceylon Government will bear in mind in dealing with this matter. It is a fact that at present the rate of duty on what is called Jafna tobacco, the medicinal or gastronomic properties of which evidently appeal to the inhabitants of Travancore, is Rs. 135 per candy of 600 pounds. The corresponding duty in British India is Rs. 1650, especially after the recent legislation in a neighbouring Province. The duty realised in the year 1112 was Rs. 5.53 lakhs, and in 1937-38, the next year, it was Rs. 5.76 lakhs. Under the provisions governing this matter the Government of His Highness the Maha Raja of Travancore have jurisdiction to levy a differential duty on foreign tobacco

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[President.]

imported into this State. I feel pretty sure that the Ceylon Government will be as much alive as anyone else to the significance of this provision and the posture of affairs, I am sure that the Travancore Government, which in this manner has a special leverage and possibility of action which no other Government in India has, will make legitimate use of it for the purpose of getting adequate, proper and equitable treatment for Travancoreans. Having said so much I disallow these motions.

The next motion is by Mr. Narayanaperumal Nadar " To discuss the serious situation brought about in the country by the recent change in the system of voting which is calculated neither to nationalise the Legislature nor to effect communal harmony.' An experienced member like Mr. Narayanaperumal Nadar knows that under section 17 (1) (b) "The Provisions of this Act and the rules framed thereunder are not admissible for discussion." I therefore disallowand in fact I have no other alternative but to disallow-this motion for adjournment.

The next motion is by Mr. K. Narayanaperumal Nadar

"To discuss the serious situation brought about in the country by the recent institution of the security proceedings against prominent State Congress workers even after Civil Disobedience is given up by the State Congress at the request of Mahatma Gandhi".

I presume. however, that the Honourable Member has adverted to proceedings which have resulted in conviction, and keping that in view, I would now like to know whether the Honourable Member has the leave of the House to make the motion.

MR. P. S. MAHAMED (*Nominated*) : I oppose the motion.

The question that leave be granted for the adjournment motion was put and declared lost as Mr. Narayanaperumal Nadar alone stood up in his place.

The next motion is by MR. C. JABAMONY NADAR which runs thus:—

"That the business of this House be adjourned for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz., Mahatma Ghandi's advice to the Travancore State Congress and his message to the Dewan of Travancore"

In the first place, I am not aware of any message from the Mahatmaji to the Dewan of Travancore. Secondly I am not aware of any advice that the Travancore State Congress has received from Mahatma Ghandi. Certain newspapers have published certain statements on these matters; the State Congress or any other institution of the kind has not officially sent any communication like the one referred to in the motion to the Government as such. In those circumstances, statements in newspapers which are liable to contradiction have to be ignored. Therefore for the reason that the Government of Travancore have not so far been officially appraised of any advice given by Mahatma Ghandi to the State Congress, and for the reason that the Dewan of Travancore has not so far received any message from the Mahatmaji, I rule the motion out of order.

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The next motion is by MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI :—

"That the business of the House be adjourned for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance viz., the situation created among the people of Travancore regarding the publication of certain rules under the Hindu Religions Endowment Act III of 1079 in the Government Gazette dated 12th Medom 1114.

I am rather surprised that one of the oldest and most experienced member of this Assembly should have given notice of this motion. It s inadmissible becuuse Devaswoms are beyond the cognisance of the Legislature.

MESSAGES FROM THE SRI CHITRA STATE COUNCIL.

SECRETARY: I beg to report that the following Messages have been received from the Secretary to the Sri Chitra State Council:

Letters dated the 6th March 1939.

From.

The Secretary to the Sri Chitra State Council

To

The Secretary to the Sri Malam Assembly.

(1)

Sir,

Under Rule 42 of the Travancore Legislative Rules, passed under date the 28th October 1932, I am directed to inform you that the Sri Chitra State Council has, at its meeting on the 15th Februory 1939 agreed, without any amendments to the Travancore Village Panchayat Courts Act (Amendment) Bill which was passed by the Sri Mulam Assembly at its meeting held on the 9th February 1939.

I have etc.,
(Sd.)
Secretary to the Sri Chitra State Council.

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(2)

Sir,

Under Rule 42 of the Travancore Legislative Rules, passed under date the 28th October 1932, I am directed to inform you that the Sri Chitra State Council has, at its meeting on the 15th February 1939 agreed, without any amendments to the Travancore Revenue Summons Act (Amendment) Bill which was passed by the Sri Mulam Assembly at its meeting held on the 10th February 1939.

I have etc.,
(Sd.)
Secretary to the Sri Chitra State Council.

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